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portunity to make a very interesting study of the founder of positivism and of his philosophy.

M. P.

Les Diverses Familles Spirituelles de la France. Paris. EMILE PAUL, 1917. 312 p.

The new book of Mr. Barrès, the eminent academician and President of the French Ligue des Patriotes, contains a series of articles which were published last year in the French newspaper l'Echo de Paris. It describes the different spiritual groups which go to make up the French people—the Catholics, the Protestants, the Jews, the Socialists, the Traditionalists. He portrays the changes that have taken place among them under the influence of the war. It is a eulogy of the Union Sacrée, that arose in August, 1914, out of the deep patriotism of the French people, after the battle of the Marne, the Union Sacrée was very near being wrecked by the too great confidence and optimism that prevailed in France. It has renewed its strength in the last three years, the present union is stronger, deeper, firmer, of a better quality than the first one. "It consists not," says Barrès, "in disavowing our beliefs, or in relegating them to a limbo, like a useless article. It consists of everything that strengthens our confidence, it consists of those deeply rooted beliefs that bind men to the eternal verities. Each of the spiritual groups has maintained its own rights and ideals but in their purest form and as a result of this has not interfered with the full cooperation of all the groups."

Mr. Barrès has built up his theme on the best materials, with written testimonies of fighters, letters of soldiers, many of which he reproduces. He has collected them from all parts of France.

The book is perhaps the most stirring and valuable work on the new spirit of France, that has been published since the beginning of the war.

M. P.

L'ILLUSTRATION. Paris. An illustrated weekly.

L'Illustration is a French illustrated weekly. All its pages are devoted since the beginning of the war to war articles. Every number brings an editorial by Mr. Henry Lavedan, the well known French academician, on a topic of immediate interest. For instance, in the numbers of June he describes the effects upon the people of Paris of the big gun bombardment. After this follow studies on the military, political, moral situation of France and her allies.

All the articles are illustrated by well known French artists and the mechanical work of reproduction cannot be surpassed.

A complete file of this valuable paper covering the period of the war will be a veritable mine for the psychologist and it is to be hoped it will find its way eventually into all psychological laboratories devoted to research.

M. P.

Ma Piece and Le Tube 1233. By PAUL LINTIER. Paris, Plon, 1916-1917. 300 p.

Among the numerous French and foreign books published since the beginning of the war, describing the life of the soldiers at the front, there are two, written by a soldier himself, at the front, sometimes between bombardments, at other times inside a dug-out, by the light of a candle, which are really masterpieces, not only for the literary point of view but also for the scientific point, because they are the real expression of truth. They are an important contribution to the psychological study of the soldier in time of war.

They are reports of battles, taken from day to day, from the mobilization up to the time of the glorious death of the author. One lives with him the feverish days of the beginning of the war—one starts for the front, amidst the cheers of the populace, one arrives at the firing line and one feels the emotion of being for the first time under fire. One revolts sometimes in having to retreat, when the position seems to be assured, and one realizes only afterwards that in formidable battles, one is only a small part of a great all. One lives the battle of the Marne, the victory and afterwards the tenacious and patient war of position, one cooperates in bringing a gun into position—one takes part in the construction of the casemates; one understands the attachment of the soldiers to their officers.

In the "*Le Tube 1233*" (which is the number of the gun) the author continues his observations and descriptions. One meets again the old battery, this time in Alsace, near the Hartmansweilerkopf, in the winter. One lives the sometimes monotonous life of the "poilu" in this sector and one agrees with Lintier when he says: "One of the surest characteristics of the present struggle is its tedious uniformity, danger, the death present nearly always in the same manner. One shell seems no more than another shell. And when the risk becomes less immediate, or when the threat of death diminishes, how poor then is our existence and how devoid of contingencies! The abrupt return of danger, the contact even with death is no more unexpected. Indeed, weariness will not have been one of the smallest hardships that the soldiers of this war suffer from.

"To be sincere, the diary of a fighter must express much monotony."

The morning of his death, Paul Lintier wrote still: "The barber of the battery arrived near midday, on his bicycle, with his shears and razors. At the front of the dug-out of the first gun, where the observation balloons cannot detect us, there is a table and a seat in the sun. Seated in a circle, on the ground, one talks while the barber is busy shaving and cutting hair. A German battery shoots. Reprisals upon Fossieux. Twenty-five shells per gun . . ." And the publisher of the book adds:

"Here end the unfinished pages of "*Le Tube 1233*." In the afternoon of the 15th of March, 1916, Paul Lintier fell under a German grenade. His latest war notes, picked up on his bleeding body, have been put together by the care of his friends and war comrades.

It is interesting to compare the two books of Paul Lintier with the much known "*Le Feu*," (Under Fire) of Barbusse. *Under Fire* shows us the war only on its most horrible side, its most depressing. There are regrettable omissions in that book and inexcusable exaggerations in these times when we need all the possible comfort to face the hard necessities of the great struggle. The soldier of Barbusse is a real slave. The splendid conduct and the superior spirit of the fighters are with the books of Sergeant Major Paul Lintier the best reply to such writings as those of Barbusse.

There remains from reading "*Ma Pièce*, and "*Le Tube 1233*," a great admiration for the "poilus" and a confident optimism in the valor, sacrifice and patriotism of our soldiers.

Those who wish to study the psychology of the soldiers would make a great mistake in confining themselves to such works as "*Le Feu*," which have obtained an unmerited success; they could not do better than to read the works of writers like P. Lintier, Ern. Psichari, Ch. Péguy and others who have fought and died in early manhood, leaving behind them faithful records of the life of the soldier in this great and glorious conflict.

M. P.